

Appl. No. : 10/786,339
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REMARKS

Applicants herewith amend Claims 1, 32, 41, 49, 64 and 68. Claim 67 is cancelled and new Claims 72 and 73 are added.

Claim 1 is amended to recite a filter device configured for being implanted in a blood vessel and capable of carrying out in-vivo plasma separation therein. The recitation of the elongated hollow microporous fibers of the filter device is also amended to recite the asymmetrical fiber wall as disclosed in the specification, for example, paragraphs 4 and 14 and as shown in the drawings. Claim 12 is amended to recite the cross-sectional area occupied by filaments as described in paragraph 18 on page 7 of the specification. Claim 32 is amended to recite a plurality of elongated hollow tubes. Claim 41 is amended to recite the preferred cross-sectional area of filaments as described in paragraph 18 on page 8 of the specification. Claim 49 is amended to be dependant on Claim 47 and to recite a cross-sectional area occupied by the plurality of filaments as described in paragraph 18, page 7. Claim 64 is amended to insert portions of Claim 67 and 68. Claim 67 is cancelled and Claim 68 is amended accordingly.

New Claims 72 and 73, dependant on Claim 1 are added. Claim 72 recites the fiber wall structure of the filter device as described in the specification in paragraph 14, page 5, lines 9-14. Claim 73 recites the fiber wall as comprising a plurality of mass density zones as described in the specification, paragraph 14, page 5, lines 14-18.


The Amendments to the claims are fully supported by the original specification including the claims and drawings, and do not introduce new matter.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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